Grand Canyon National Park Arizona



## **How Might the Noncommercial Permit System Change?**

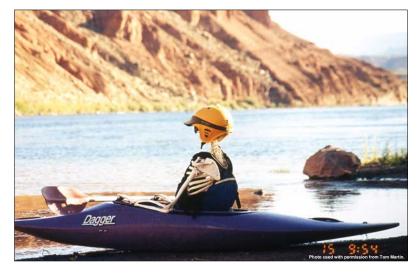
What We Heard From You Regarding the Waitlist

What People Liked: You get your chance if you hang on long enough.

#### **What People Disliked:**

- Wait time is way too long,
- Annual requirements are tedious and time consuming.

What People Agreed On: The waitlist system needs to be overhauled. It is not reasonable to make people wait 13-26 or more years for a permit.



## The Waitlist: It Can Be A Long Wait!

#### **Desired Features of a New System:**

- New users should have a chance of getting a trip without an unreasonable wait.
- Those who have waited longer should have an increased chance.
- The application processes should be simple and available online.
- The nature of noncommercial trips (self-guided group of friends) should be preserved.

#### **Options for Waitlist Members for Transitioning to New System:**

- 1. Remain on waitlist for up to 5 years with rule changes (transition to the new system will be completed by the 6<sup>th</sup> year):
  - List all trip members now, further additions will not be allowed.
  - Receive no increase in trip opportunities; new system gets increase plus proportion of old allocation as members leave list.
  - Members can give up their spots, combine their waits, and be listed as a new entry after those who have waited that long.
- 2. Give up spot and start with one extra chance in the new weighted lottery for each year you have remained on the current waitlist.
- 3. Give up spot and receive \$150 in compensation or \$200 in transferable credit for use in the permits programs at Grand Canyon within 5 years.

Our Response:
The Preferred Alternative

### **A Weighted Lottery for Groups**

A weighted lottery provides unsuccessful applicants with an extra chance in following year's lottery.

#### How it works:

- Indicate interest up to 24 months in advance through the all-user registration system.
- List acceptable launch dates
- List trip members:
  - Each can be listed on only one application per year.
  - Each is eligible as an alternate trip leader if leader drops out.
- Lottery takes place 1 year in advance and awards launches.

# Why Not Exhaust the Waitlist First?

- It could take 13-26+ years using the existing allocation or 7-14+ years with the increased allocation.
- Everyone not on the list would have to be prohibited access until the list was cleared.